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DPD-3511-61

6 JUN
1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD

SUBJECT : Trip Report

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The following is a resume of the undersigned's recent TDY to [] [] Outlined below are support topics which were discussed at both locations. In most instances, I will endeavor to recommend appropriate action to be taken by the various DPD components. Final action will be based on approval of these recommendations by the Acting Chief or the Assistant Chief, DPD

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1. An entire working day was spent at [] Subsequent to arrival, the undersigned was given an extensive tour of the installation by [] After completion of the tour, the undersigned met with [] Security Officer; and [] Admin Officer, to discuss support activities at the installation.

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a. Status of Allowance for [] DPD Admin is currently preparing a paper on this subject.
ACTION: Complete paper and forward as soon as possible for approval. The results will enable candidates selected for assignments to be fully briefed on allowances prior to PCS arrival.

b. Personnel: It was brought out by [] and confirmed by the other two gentlemen in attendance that Headquarters assign at this time only those individuals required and necessary to accomplish the job at hand. The following represents a run-down of the personnel situation:

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two areas, these being [] Considering the environment and surroundings of these [] the most desirable from a security standpoint would be to have as many personnel as possible spend their off-time in the [] (the lesser of two evils). However, the [] and the [] has been extremely irregular and, within the last month or so, has not had space available to accommodate any of our personnel. It is my understanding that [] will, in the future, be making scheduled trips to [] thus alleviating the situation.

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d. Finance: The contract guards assigned to [] have not been receiving Statement of Earnings on a regular basis. They inform me that they were advised that they were only issued statements when personnel claimed overtime, however, several of the statements shown to me on the spot did not reflect overtime and I believe these statements are available to all personnel for each pay period.

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ACTION: Recommend DPD Personnel review this matter and, if the Statement of Earnings are available for each and every pay period, they should be transmitted to []

e. Materiel:

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(1) I was questioned about the status of the 35 mm films requested for showing at [] Prior to my departure, DPD Materiel had indicated that this was in the hands of []

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ACTION: Recommend DPD Materiel take appropriate follow-up action.

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(2) Fire Loss: [] is desirous of settling claims of [] personnel as a result of a fire that occurred at [] some time ago. It is my understanding that DPD Materiel has the action on this matter.

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ACTION: Recommend Materiel, DPD, take follow-up action as soon as possible since [] is desirous of settling this matter post haste.

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(3) Fire Equipment: [] indicated a request for additional fire-fighting equipment will be forthcoming in the near future.

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ACTION: Materiel, DPD, upon receipt of additional requirements from []

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however, prior to assignment, requested that Headquarters fully brief them on the contents of their contracts, duties to be performed and living conditions in the area. Further, the Chief, Security, [] would like to be advised of the contents of the Headquarters briefing.

ACTION: DPD Security

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c. [] The Detachment Security Officer was aware of the pending re-assignment of []. They were anxious to know the specific timing of this assignment and also, advice relative to his replacement.

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ACTION: This was discussed with DPD Security and Personnel. Action has been completed along with cable notification to the field.

d. General: It appeared that the main gripes of these individuals were long separations from families, requirement to fly on a variety of commercial and non-scheduled airlines when insurance coverage is not paid for by the Agency. I advised these personnel that Agency sponsored insurance coverage for security personnel is not a new subject and that OGC had been requested to render a ruling, the results being negative.

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4. Travel: In the course of my discussions with the Detachment Admin Officer, the subject of passports arose. The Admin Officer was of the opinion that passports for personnel located at the Detachment should be maintained by the Detachment and not by Headquarters. He further informed me that the procurement of visas for travel in the areas involved would not present a problem since the visas could be obtained in []. This same situation holds true for the Lockheed personnel, since prior to departing on a staging, these personnel report to Lockheed Headquarters 48 hours prior to departure. This would enable them to get the necessary visas required. I am in agreement with the recommendation of having the passports physically located at the Detachment and, if circumstances of which I am not aware do not preclude such an arrangement, it is recommended that all passports for [] personnel be forwarded and maintained at [].

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ACTION: DPD Travel and Admin will discuss to ascertain if this recommendation is feasible.

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5. Communications: An entire morning was spent in round-table discussion with the Communications personnel stationed at []. The major gripes and problem areas encountered were as follows:

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a. Separation: The Chief, Communications, [] had started off the session by informing me that personnel had been separated some 138 days out of the last 155 days and such a situation does not lend itself to maintaining a happy household.

b. Lost Overtime: The complaint registered along this line was that personnel, while on stagings, were working extremely long hours, however, due to an existing regulation could not and were not paid or reimbursed for the full overtime worked. This situation exists because current regulations prohibit the payment of overtime resulting in cash settlement over and above the salary earned by a GS-15, Step 4.

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c. Cost of Living: It was indicated that the cost of living in [] in their opinion, far exceeded that encountered in the Washington area. These costs primarily were in the field of medical care where cash payments were required and charges were not acceptable.

d. Transportation: The distances involved from home to the working area (40 miles one-way) and the cost of operating and maintaining personal vehicles were of prime concern to these personnel.

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e. Staff Study: A staff study prepared by the Chief, Commo, [] was forwarded to DPD Commo for information and action. At the time of my visit a reply to this staff study was not received. The Chief, Commo, [] was anxious to receive Headquarters reactions to his recommendations. This staff study was contained in [] (Commo distribution only).

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f. Cover/Security: One of the Commo men had indicated that he was desirous of seeking employment with a private contractor in the area and had requested Headquarters for advice on the procedures to be followed. Headquarters replied in dispatch [] which I personally disagree with and am of the opinion this dispatch should be reviewed and rewritten for forwarding to the field.

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ACTION: Subsequent to my return, the undersigned met with DPD Communications personnel and outlined to them the above problems. What action can be taken to eliminate the above-mentioned problem areas is somewhat limited. However, the Chief, Commo, DPD, did indicate that, when feasible and advantageous to the Government, Headquarters personnel would be dispatched to lend a helping hand during staging periods. A recommendation on the transportation problem, which is not unique to the Commo personnel, will be contained in my conclusions.

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CONCLUSIONS:

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The trip to [] in my opinion, was enlightening and, I hope, beneficial to the installation. In recapping, I would like to make the following observations and recommendations:

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1. It is my understanding that [] has never been to Headquarters nor has he had the opportunity to meet all the Headquarters personnel who have the responsibility of supporting him. I am aware that [] was scheduled to make an orientation trip to Headquarters, however, circumstances arose which precluded him from doing so. I would like to recommend that [] be given this opportunity in the near future.

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2. In view of the long separations encountered by personnel at the Detachment during stagings, recommend that consideration be given, if feasible, to utilizing the two-team approach, whereby stagings could be conducted utilizing one team at a time and all personnel would not be required to be away from the installation and their families.

3. Transportation: Recommend DPD Materiel review the transportation situation with the possibility of having additional QP vehicles assigned to the Detachment, utilizing these on a car pool basis between home and work. I would think that the micro-bus type vehicle (Chevy Greenbriar) would be ideal and serve the purpose. Further, it is my opinion that at least one of these vehicles be assigned to the Communications Section full time. This situation exists in almost all posts known to the writer, due to the abnormal working hours and the requirement to move electronic equipment between [] and [].

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4. Much of the griping and discontent, as I see it, can be attributed to:

a. The fact that at installations where staff, contract and military personnel are located, and all receiving different financial remunerations, a problem will exist. In other words, "The grass always looks greener on the other side of the fence."

b. - I think the financial outlay to maintain one's self and family becomes somewhat shocking to individuals after serving at an overseas installation where so many benefits are afforded personnel.

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CONCUR:

SIGNED

Stanley W. Beerli
Acting Chief, DPD

Deputy Chief, Administrative Staff

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